

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 14-27 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 14-16, 20-23 and 27 are amended. Claims 9-13 are cancelled. No new matter is added. The claims are not narrowed by such amendment. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 14-16, 20-23 and 27 are amended for clarification and consistency purposes only. Further, claim 8 was amended to correct an obvious typographical error introduced in the last Amendment. The amendments do not narrow the scope of the respective claims. Support for the amended claims may be found throughout the original specification. For example, specific support may be found at least at page 10, line 16, through page 12, line 15, Fig. 2 and original claim 8.

I. §102(e) Rejection

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent 6,535,298 B2, to Winter et al. ("Winter"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, a client device that includes "a related data generating unit that **generates related image data** for the print data, **and** a transmission unit that **transmits the print data and the related image data.**" (Emphasis added)

Applicants respectfully submit that Winter does not disclose, teach or suggest such features. For example, as described in Fig. 10A, at blocks 252-256, and at col. 12, line 63 through col. 13, line 5, an image file is acquired from a client device (block 252) and then the related image data is generated **by the printer device** (block 254). The generated related data is then printed upon a proof sheet (block 256). Therefore, in Winter, the client device does not produce the related image data, and the client device does not transmit the related image data, as recited in the claims.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over the applied art. Claims 2-7 depend from independent claim 1 and are likewise patentably distinguishable over the applied art for at least their dependence on an allowable base claim, as well as for additional features they recite. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

II. §103(a) Rejection

The Office Action rejects claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Winter in view of U.S. Patent 5,864,652 to Murahashi.

Claim 8 depends from claim 1. Murahashi fails to overcome the above-described deficiency of Winter with respect to independent claim 1. Therefore, the asserted combination of Winter and Murahashi does not teach or suggest the combinations of features recited in claim 1.

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claim 8 is patentably distinguishable over the applied art for at least the reasons discussed above, as well as for additional features that claim 8 recites. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

III. Rejection of claims 9-27

Page 5, line 1, of the Office Action states that, "the limitations of claims 9-27 are met by the rejections above."

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 14-27 are patentably distinguishable over the applied art for at least the reasons discussed above, as well as for additional features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Please note that claims 9-13 are cancelled. Claims 14-16, 20-23 and 27 are amended for clarification and consistency purposes only. The amendments do not narrow the scope of the respective claims. Support for the amended claims may be found throughout the original


specification. For example, specific support may be found at least at page 10, line 16, through page 12, line 15, Fig. 2, and original claim 8.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of all claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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